

DOC	5	REV DATE	22 Apr 80	BY	025251
ORIG COMP	31	OPI	31	TYPE	02
ORIG CLASS	C	PAGES	2	REV CLASS	U
JUST	25	NEXT REV	2070	AUTH:	HR 70-2

23 January 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Region III GSA Officials Regarding
Polygraphing of GSA Guards and Char Force
Maintenance Personnel

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1. On 9 January 1961 Mr. [REDACTED] and the undersigned met with the following Region III GSA officials with respect to polygraphing the above-named category of GSA personnel:

Mr. L. A. Ziernicki	Chief, Buildings Management Division
Mr. Frank Capps	Assistant Chief, Buildings Management Division
Mr. Henry Hunt, Jr.	Chief, Protection Branch Buildings Management Division
Mr. Allen O'Brien	Deputy Chief, Protection Area Building Management Division
Mr. Hershel Johnson	Personnel Division
Mr. Rodney Van Devanter	Chief, Employment Branch

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2. Mr. [REDACTED] opened the meeting in an attempt to ascertain whether or not a decision had been reached by GSA by their inquiry to the Civil Service Commission in regard to the guard force. Specifically, the problem of dropping a GSA CIA-assigned guard from GS-4 to GS-2 as a result of an unfavorable polygraph.

3. Mr. Ziernicki and staff indicated that there had been little or no precedent set in such matters according to the Civil Service Commission and that they were somewhat fearful of the problems that might result. Mr. [REDACTED] then indicated in a very diplomatic but firm manner that he felt the security considerations outweighed the "problems" that might be encountered and asked Mr. Ziernicki's staff their opinions on the matter. Mr. Ziernicki immediately stated there was no question that the security aspects far outweighed the "problems" and granted the permission to proceed with the testing.

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4. He instructed Mr. O'Brien to contact our Building and Guards Branch Chief, Mr. [REDACTED] and to lay on the polygraph testing. Mr. O'Brien asked to be able to start sometime immediately after the Inauguration as he had many problems that had to be taken care of immediately in regard to the Inauguration. It was agreed this would be quite satisfactory and the writer asked that he be in on the meetings with Mr. O'Brien and Mr. [REDACTED] at their outset. Mr. O'Brien indicated he felt this would work out for the benefit of all.

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5. It was decided that the char force would be done at some later time and Mr. Capps indicated very shortly the maintenance crew would be sent over in small groups to be tested.

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2 cc: [REDACTED]